

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

NOTES ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR OCTOBER 9.

Joshua Encouraged.

Joshua 1:1-11.

Golden Text: Be strong and of a good courage. Joshua 1:9.

The book of Joshua, from which our lessons for the next six weeks are taken, is practically a continuation of the Pentateuch. The book of Deuteronomy closes with the people of Israel on the border of the land of Canaan, and the book of Joshua tells how they entered that land and proceeded to conquer it in accordance with the divine instructions which Moses had given them.

A New Leader.—Moses was dead, but the Lord never leaves his people without a guide, and in the person of Joshua we find the new leader who was divinely commissioned to carry forward the work which Moses had left to be completed.

At the time of Moses's death Joshua was about eighty-four years old. He had been brought up under the Egyptian bondage, and, with his fellow-countrymen, had shared their varied experiences in escaping from Egypt and wandering in the wilderness. He first appears in the Scripture narrative as the victorious leader of the Israelites in their fight with the Amalekites. He then became a close follower and attendant upon Moses, and was one of the twelve spies sent to investigate the Promised Land.

With Caleb he made a favorable and courageous report, but the cowardice of the other spies and the faint-heartedness of the people resulted in their long sojourn in the wilderness, and for thirty-eight years we read nothing further concerning Joshua. Then, when Moses is told of his approaching death, Joshua is pointed out to him as his successor, and in obedience to the divine intimation, Moses consecrates him to the great work which he should shortly be called upon to do.

Divine Encouragement.—The opening verses of the book of Joshua are filled with the message of good courage. There is no minifying the task which Joshua is to accomplish. The conquest of the land of Canaan throughout its length and breadth is the goal which was set before him. It was a formidable undertaking, and Joshua knew that to accomplish it would tax all his powers and all the resources of the people. But with the command to possess came also the promise of divine aid in securing possession.

The Path of Good Success.—The pathway to true prosperity has ever been clearly indicated by God. There is no sure road to material wealth, but there is an absolutely certain way to attain true prosperity, and that way is the way which was pointed out to Joshua. True prosperity lies in coming into harmony with God, and this harmony is attained by conformity with his law. An un-

deviating obedience to his will, this was what God required of Joshua, and he makes the same requirement of us today.

It is true that to walk in conformity with the law of God requires a heart filled with the spirit of loving obedience. But God is ever ready to bestow upon us the grace which we require to enable us to walk in his way; and just as surely as he was with Moses and Joshua, so will he be with us, if we are strong and of good courage and turn not to the right hand or to the left.

Meditation a Means of Spiritual Growth.—We sometimes speak of the Quiet Hour movement as if spiritual meditation were a modern development of the spiritual life. But we find in the Lord's charge to Joshua an injunction to the observance of the daily morning and evening watch, for Joshua is distinctly commanded to meditate day and night upon the book of God's law.

What Joshua needed in preparation for his arduous life as the leader of Israel's hosts we need today in the rush and turmoil of our twentieth century civilization. Quiet meditation upon the eternal truths contained in God's Holy Word will aid us as nothing else can do in the faithful performance of our duty toward both God and man.

The Sufferings and Wanderings of the Israelites.

There is something inexpressibly sad in this wasting away in the wilderness of a nation of nearly two million people, with no hope to the full-grown men and women of ever seeing anything better than their present condition in this world. There was hope for the young but none for the middle-aged. The consequences of sin are always sad and the consequences of that incompetence, that lack of courage and faith, which is the result of sin, are no less sad. The pitiful sadness of it, together with the reviving faith and hope of the more spiritual are reflected in that wonderful 90th Psalm, doubtless written by Moses during this period. He could see among all these desolations that Jehovah was the home, the dwelling place of His people throughout all generations.

In this people, however, whose elders were thus fading and wasting away, was the hope of all future civilization. All forms of religion which have any vitality, any capacity to lift men to higher things, have sprung from the religious faith and convictions of this people who were wasting away in the wilderness. The principles of righteousness embodied in their laws have since been embodied to a greater or less degree in the laws of all virile, progressive nations, and the more fully they have incorporated and obeyed these laws, the more virile and progressive they have been. It took all these years to imbue these people with the spirit of these laws, to incorporate them, so to speak, in the life of the nation.—Dr. Henry Wallace, in Wallace's Farmer.

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Green coffee from 8c. to 10c. per pound.



SEEDS FOR FALL PLANTING.

CLOVER SEED:

Crimson, choice.....	\$2.90 per bush.
Late Crimson.....	5.50 "
White Blooming Crimson.....	5.50 "
Red, good.....	5.30 "
Red, prime.....	5.50 "
Red, choice.....	5.75 "
Sapling, prime.....	5.60 "
Sapling, choice.....	5.85 "
Lucern or Alfalfa.....	6.85 "

GRASS SEED:

Timothy, choice.....	2.50 "
Orchard, prime.....	1.50 "
Orchard, choice.....	1.60 "
Tall Meadow Oat, choice.....	1.45 "
Kentucky Blue, fancy.....	1.40 "
Red Top or Herds, prime, in chaff.....	.25 "
Red Top or Herds, fancy, clean, per lb.....	9½c. per lb.
Perennial Rye.....	.85 per bush.
Italian Rye.....	1.00 "
Rescue.....	14c. per lb.

SEED WHEAT—Beardless varieties:

Fultz.....	\$1.10 per bush.
Red May.....	1.10 "
Blue Stem or Purple Straw.....	1.15 "
Beardless Fulcaster.....	1.15 "
Currells Prolific.....	1.20 "
Harvest King.....	1.20 "

Bearded Varieties—

Bearded Fulcaster.....	1.10 "
Dietz Mediterranean.....	1.20 "

SEED OATS:

Va. Winter, or Turf, prime ..	.65 "
Va. Winter, or Turf, choice..	.70 "
Red Rust Proof, choice.....	.52 "

VETCH:

Hairy or Sand.....	.10 per lb.
English Winter.....	.06 per lb.
Winter Rye.....	.72 per bush.
Rape, Dwarf Essex.....	.06 per lb.

2½ bushel or 100-pound cotton sacks for clover, timothy and fancy berds grass, 15 cts. each, extra; prices of other seeds include sacks. Prices subject to market fluctuations. Cabbage, turnip, and all other seeds at market prices. Granulated sugar, \$4.65 per 100 lbs. Keg Soda, in 112 lb. kegs, 1½ cts. per lb. Best Leaf Lard, in tins, 11½ cts. per lb. Other quantities and qualities in proportion. Tobacco, Snuff, etc., at market prices. Loaded shells, powder and shot at wholesale prices, by the 1,000, keg and sack.

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